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210732US-38-232424-3-PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
USHIO URANAKA ET AL : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION
SERIAL NO: NEW U.S. PCT APPLN :
(Based on PCT/JP01/00066)
FILED: HEREWITH : EXAMINER:
FOR: FRESHNESS-KEEPING DEVICE :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 7 and 8 as follows:

7. (Amended) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 3, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and adsorbents are arranged with intervals inside the elongated resinous film or films.

8. (Amended) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 3, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and a plurality of adsorbents are arranged with intervals on the elongated resinous film or films and a plurality of cut lines are formed in the elongated resinous film or films at positions between individual adsorbents to define the film or films.

Please add new Claims 9-14 as follows:

9. (New) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 4, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and adsorbents are arranged with intervals inside the elongated resinous film or films.

10. (New) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 5, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and adsorbents are arranged with intervals inside the elongated resinous film or films.

11. (New) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 6, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and adsorbents are arranged with intervals inside the elongated resinous film or films.

12. (New) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 4, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and a plurality of adsorbents are arranged with intervals on the elongated resinous film or films and a plurality of cut lines are formed in the elongated resinous film or films at positions between individual adsorbents to define the film or films.

13. (New) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 5, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and a plurality of adsorbents are arranged with intervals on the elongated resinous film or films and a plurality of cut lines are formed in the elongated resinous film or films at positions between individual adsorbents to define the film or films.

14. (New) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 6, wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and a plurality of adsorbents are arranged with intervals on the elongated resinous film or films and a plurality of cut lines are

formed in the elongated resinous film or films at positions between individual adsorbents to define the film or films.

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present preliminary amendment amends Claims 7 and 8 so that they are no longer multiple dependent claims. Further, the subject matter of the cancelled multiple dependencies is now set forth in new dependent Claims 9-14.

The present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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07-20-01

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 7 and 8 as follows:

--7. (Amended) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 3, [4, 5 or 6],

wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and adsorbents are arranged with intervals inside the elongated resinous film or films.

8. (Amended) The freshness-keeping device according to Claim 3, [4, 5 or 6,]

wherein the film or films are made of an elongated strip-like resinous film and a plurality of [adsorbent] adsorbents are arranged with intervals on the elongated resinous film or films and a plurality of cut lines are formed in the elongated resinous film or films at positions between individual adsorbents to define the film or films.--

Claims 9-14 (New).